



## **QUPE 2006 STOLPMAN VINEYARD SYRAH**

This wine is 100% Syrah from the Stolpman Vineyard, in the hills just west of Los Olivos in the Santa Ynez Valley. The vineyard is owned by the Stolpman family and primarily used for their own eponymous winery. I've been working with grapes from this vineyard since 1996 and sadly, this will be our last single vineyard Syrah from there... but for a good reason - the Stolpmans are keeping the grapes for themselves.

2006 was a cool vintage, and we harvested these grapes about 3 weeks later than normal on October 27th. This is all from clone 99, which gives a plummier, earthier expression of Syrah than some of the other Syrah clones we work with. We got a little under 1 1/2 tons of this special fruit, which gave us only 4 barrels (I used one new and one 1-year-old François Frères for the aging). 96 cases were bottled in February 2008.

This is a ripe, expressive Syrah that speaks accurately of its unique place. Besides plum and earth, there is a distinct minerality that I associate with the high levels of limestone in the Stolpman Vineyard soil. This is the most forward and approachable of our 2006 single vineyard selection Syrahs... drink now and over the next 5-7 years.